

# Preparatory to Year 1 geography

## Clean water is best

### Australian Curriculum links:

#### Preparatory geography

The places people live in and belong to, their familiar features and why they are important to people (ACHASSK015)

#### Foundation Science

Living things have basic needs, including food and water (ACSSU002)

#### Year 1 geography

Activities in the local place and reasons for their location (ACHASSK033)

#### Sustainability cross-curriculum priority

In this activity, students discuss why access to clean drinking water is important and discover ways to save water at school and at home. These ideas can be supplemented with additional learning experiences negotiated with students and decided according to interest and need.

## Equipment

- A glass of dirty water
- [Whizzy's incredible journeys pick-a-path book](#) specifically the underground journey (hard copy or digital)
- Whizzy's messages (No. 4)
- [Bucket loads of savings poster](#) (also available as a brochure) and/or [Whizzy's water saving tips poster](#)

## Activity steps

1. Place a glass of dirty water in front of the class without drawing any attention to the fact that the water is dirty. Just say, 'Wow I'm so thirsty after playground duty, I think I need a glass of water'. Then pretend to start drinking the water. When students call out not to drink it because it's dirty, say 'Oh yeah, you're right! I do need to wash my hands though, so maybe I could use it for that'. Then ask students if you could perhaps use it for:
  - washing your hair
  - giving to the dog
  - cooking
  - watering plants
2. Discuss with students that even though there is a lot of water in the world there is only a limited amount that is clean enough for drinking.
3. Read 'Whizzy's incredible journeys – underground journey' and discuss the different ways that Whizzy the waterdrop is used in the story and how the drinking water for the humans was cleaned. Explain that as the dirty water moved through the layers of broken rock underground it was filtered to provide clean water for the horses.
4. Display 'Whizzy's message 4': 'Water must be used responsibly so we always have enough'. Read the words aloud to the children.

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5. Discuss all the ways that students know how to save water at school and at home. Record their ideas. Display the 'Buckets loads of savings poster' or the 'Whizzy's water saving tips poster' to give them some ideas.